

WINTER  
ISSUE  
No. 40

10¢  


# CRACK COMICS

Captain **Triumph**  
untangles another  
THRILLING  
**MURDER**  
MYSTERY!



# Given

Your Choice of Valuable  
**GIFTS OR CASH**



Pick out the gifts you want  
from the articles shown or from  
the big gift circular included with  
your first order.

## Birthstone RING



### SET OF SIGNS

Complete set of twelve fine hand  
engraved, GIVEN for sending  
order as explained in gift circular.

### BASEBALL SET

Designed by old and young men  
play with more fun. GIVEN for  
order as explained in gift circular.

### HOLSTER SET

Carries Gun, Hand  
and Holster. GIVEN for  
order as explained in gift circular.

### WALLET-TALLET

Carries Money or Personal Items. GIVEN for  
order as explained in gift circular.

### SOFTBALL SET

Includes Ball, Bat, Glove,  
Socks, Belt and Cap. GIVEN for  
order as explained in gift circular.

**GOLD CROWN PRODUCTS**, Dept. 5-511, Indianapolis, Indiana.

More, like a long set  
of 100, 200, 300, 400,  
500, 600, 700, 800,  
900, 1000, 1100,  
1200, 1300, 1400,  
1500, 1600, 1700,  
1800, 1900, 2000,  
2100, 2200, 2300,  
2400, 2500, 2600,  
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5700, 5800, 5900,  
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# Captain TRIUMPH



Ready to crack any mystery wide OPEN!

By touching the strange birth-mark on his wrist, Lance Gallant can merge with the spirit of his dead twin brother, Michael, to form the indomitable Captain Triumph!

Unseen, the ghost of Michael Gallant  
flies through the night....

NONE OF MY RELATIVES  
IS WORTHY OF MY FORTUNE!  
I'M CHANGING MY WILL—  
LEAVING EVERYTHING  
TO CHARITY!

THAT'S THE  
HOUSE OF  
OLD EGAL  
PLINTER! HE  
SOUNDS  
SLIGHTLY  
ANGRY!



I DON'T CARE IF HE  
IS MY COUSIN! HE  
OUGHT TO SUFFER  
FOR TALKING LIKE  
THAT!

BE CALM,  
DERWOOD! MAYBE ALL  
WILL BE WELL!



NOTHING LIKE A  
FAMILY FEUD TO CAUSE  
VIOLENCE! I'D BETTER  
GET CAPTAIN TRIUMPH  
ON THE SCENE!



WHY ARE  
YOU SO BITTER,  
UNCLE EGAL?

DON'T TRY TO PLEAD  
WITH HIM, IDA! I  
KNOW MY BROTHER  
— HIS MIND IS  
MADE UP!

Nobody can change my mind!  
Get out all of you! Within  
fifteen minutes I'll have my  
will changed — cut you  
all out forever!



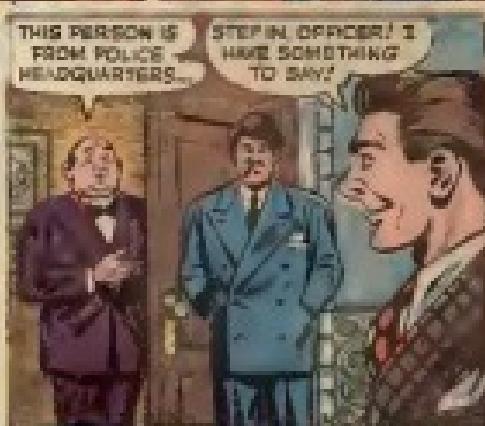
Across town, where Lance Gallant  
sits at ease with KIM and BILL...

AM THERE,  
MICHAEL!

QUICK, LANCE!  
CAPTAIN TRIUMPH  
IS NEEDED!









Loser, in rural privacy ...

I HAD TO DO IT, DERWOOD! YOU WERE LOUSING UP THE CASE WITH THAT BOGUS CONFESSION!

SO YOU MADE IT WORSE BY KIDNAPPING ME!

I SAW THROUGH MY YOU THINK LOLA'S GUILTY! YOU'RE TRYING TO PROTECT HER — SHE TRIES TO PROTECT YOU!

IF I GET LOOSE, YOU'LL HAVE TROUBLE PROTECTING YOURSELF!



IT WON'T BE A FAIR MATCH, DERWOOD! BUT I'LL KEEP YOU OUT OF MISCHIEF IF YOU FIGHT BIFF FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS.

WHO, HET?

HEY, THAT'S NOT FAIR! I DON'T HAVE MY GUARD UP!

REFEREE THE BOUT WHILE I'M GONE, HIM! IT OUGHT TO BE A HONEY!



Back at Filintars ...

I SAY DERWOOD'S INNOCENT! I KILLED MY UNCLE & GALT!

ARE YOU THE MURDERER? WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

MY NAME'S PARKER, SIR, AND IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT MISS LOLA —

WHO SAYS SHE'S GUILTY? SHE SAID THAT DERWOOD ARE TRYING TO TAKE THE BAFF FOR EACH OTHER!







Not far down the tunnel...

WHO'S THERE, OR SHALL I START SHOOTIN'?

IT'S JOHN! OPEN UP! I WANT TO WARN YOU!

YOU DID THE JOB WELL, MEN! BUT THEY'VE ACCUSED ME! I WANT TO LIE LOW UNTIL IT BLOWS OVER...

ARE YOU KIDDING? WE DIDN'T DO NO JOB!

BUT I PLANTED YOU IN THIS HIDEOUT TO KILL MY BROTHER, ERNIE! HERE'S WHAT I PROMISED ...

WE TAKE NO DROUGHS TILL WE EARNED IT! THINK WE'RE DISHONEST?

IF YOU DIDN'T KILL HIM, WHO DID?

DON'T ASK ME — HEY, WHO'S THAT COMING?



THAT'S JUST WHAT I  
WAS GOING TO SAY  
WHEN YOUR MOONLUMS  
OPENED FIRE! I  
KNOW THE  
KILLER!

In the meantime, in  
the calm, peaceful country...

I'M WRECKING  
MY KNUCKLES  
ON YOUR CAST.  
IRON MAN!

PLEASE,  
GENTLEMEN,  
END IT! THIS IS  
BECOMING  
A BORE!

END IT, KIM SAYS!  
SO THERE'S  
THE END!



CHAR... THEY OUGHT  
TO HAVE A RED FLAG  
BEFORE THEY  
TOUCH OFF A  
BLAST LIKE  
THAT!

THANKS FOR THE FLUG,  
DEVERWOOD. THAT WAS  
ONE BLASTED YOU!  
NOW SIT UP AND  
TELL US WHAT  
IT'S ABOUT!



THE WAY YOU DESCRIBE  
IT - THAT KNIFE-BLOW  
COULD HAVE BEEN  
STRUCK ONLY BY A  
STRONG MAN -  
NOT A WOMAN!

BUT LOIS SHOWED  
THAT IT WAS LOLA'S  
KNIFE - THAT SHE WAS  
FIRST TO RETURN  
TO THE ROOM -





I KNOW THESE MONKLUMS! THE JACK'S BEEN TAPPIN' FOR THEM SINCE LAST GROUND HOG DAY!

THEY'RE YOUNG BUT LOOK—



JACK HERE ADMITS HE HIRED THESE KILLERS TO MURDER HIS BROTHER, BUT THEY DIDN'T DO IT!

THEN WHO DID?



LOLA, WHAT'S THE NAME OF YOUR MAID?

I TOLD YOU—PARKER!



BUT HER FIRST NAME?

WHY—I NEVER REALLY KNEW! WE JUST CALL HER PARKER!



LOOK IN THE WILL! ESAU FUNT CALLED HER CHARITY PARKER!

YES! YES! THAT'S WHAT HE MEANT WHEN HE SAID HE'D LEAVE HIS MONEY TO CHARITY!



LEAVE HIS FORTUNE TO ME! I NEVER WANTED IT!

BUT I DID!



YOU'LL CATCH UP  
WITH ME IN A SECOND  
SO ... STAND STILL,  
EVERYONE, AND I'LL  
TELL YOU WHAT  
HAPPENED!

ALL RIGHT, JEVONS, LET'S  
HAVE THE STORY!

I OVERHEARD  
MR. EGAN! AS HE FINISHED  
WRITING HIS NEW WILL, I  
SHAKED HIM, KILLED HIM  
AND GRABBED IT!

YOU THOUGHT YOU'D  
PROFIT BY MARRYING  
ME, JEVONS, HOW  
COULD YOU?

HERE, YOU  
CAN HAVE THE  
WILL!

BULLETS CAN'T  
HURT ME,  
JEVONS!

BUT THEY CAN HURT  
THIS LADY! SO DON'T  
FOLLOW ME AS  
I LEAVE!

WHERE ARE  
YOU TAKING  
MET?

KEEP  
STILL!

I'LL LIGHT THE WOODS  
ABIRE ... NOBODY WILL  
DARE FOLLOW!

DO YOU  
WANT TO  
BURN US  
BOTH?

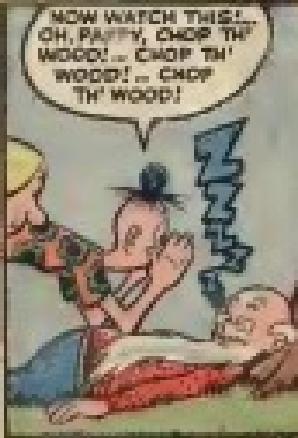




Steppling aside, Captain Trumppie again rubs the magic mark and Michael's spirit departs, leaving Lance!



# SLAP HAPPY PAPPY



# Pen Miller

*by*  
*Pen Miller*

Pen Miller, cartoonist-detective, bases his adventure strips on his real life adventures....



MILLER, KINDLY EXPLAIN THOSE SKETCHES OF YOURS SHOWING CONVICTS IN THE STATE PENTITENTIARY LIVING IN LUXURY!

STATE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

EASILY — I HAVE THE WORD OF A FORMER INMATE THAT IT'S SO!

SOME OF THOSE CONVICTS GET THE VERY BEST FOODS, HAVE CELLS FITTED UP LIKE DELUXE SUITES AT A SWANK HOTEL AND ARE WAITED ON HAND AND FOOT!

WONDERFUL! THE CONVICTS ARE TREATED HUMANELY, BUT THAT'S ALL!

YOU'RE TRYING TO CREATE A SENSATION, MILLER!

I NOTICE YOU'VE DONE NOTHING ABOUT THE RECENT SERIES OF CRIMES IN THIS CITY, BUT YOU'RE MAKING MUCH ADRO OVER A STORY YOU GOT FROM A CONVICT!

MAHIE, TELL ME SOMETHING ABOUT BOTH FREDERICK AND JAMES! GOODBYE!



BUT I DO NOT CONCERNED,  
MUST ANSWER; RYTHM YOU  
DO NOT TAKE INVOLVABLE  
MEMBERS OF LITTLE BROTHER  
DOWN TO PLUNGE AND  
SHOW THEM CONDITIONS.

BECAUSE THERE'S  
NOTHING TO SHOW  
THE PRISON LOOKS  
PLAIN ENOUGH WHEN  
ANYBODY'S PESTLING.

IT'S JUST THAT MARY JONES TOLD  
A STORY I HADN'T TO BELIEVE;  
IT SHE WAS JEALOUS WERNT ONE  
OF THE SELECT FEW AND SO HE  
HAD A TOUGH LIFE THERE —

THAT MADE  
HIM PLUNGE  
ANGRY... SO  
HE TELL YOU  
ABOUT  
OTHERS  
WEST



RIGHT? SANDY HAS  
NOTHING TO GAIN BY  
MAKING UP A STORY  
LIKE THAT — LET'S SEE  
THE FEAR SPYLOCK  
EDITION, GATZ!

ANOTHER ONE! IT'S BETTER  
GO DOWN TO HEADQUARTERS  
AND FIND OUT HOW THIS ONE  
WAS DONE —

ANYTHING  
I CAN DO,  
MURKIN?

YEAH, YOU CAN MIND  
YOUR OWN BUSINESS  
WHILE ME, KARLIN TRIED  
TO IDENTIFY THE BUG  
WHO SPYLOCKED HIM  
IN HIS OFFICE!



THAT'S THE SHANT! THAT'S THE  
ONE WHO STRUCK ME WITH  
A GUN!

WHAT'S WHY,  
THAT'S DUFF  
LEAVY!

HOW LOOK, MR. KARLIN? MAYBE YOU DON'T FEEL  
SO GOOD FROM THAT BODG ON THE HEAD... AND  
THEN AGAIN SUMM THINGS JUST TRYING TO KID  
ME... BUT THAT DAY HAPPENED TO BE  
IN THE CLUNK AT THIS VERY AWAITIN'!



STICK TO YOUR STORY IF YOU CAN, SURE YOU'D BE RIGHT, MR. MARSHALL! DON'T LET THIS FLATFOOT INTIMIDATE YOU!

MILLER, YOU KEEP OUT OF THIS... OR...

-OR YOU MIGHT USE YOUR HEAD, MURPHY... AND TAKE ME DOWN TO MR. MARSHALL'S OFFICE! I WANT TO HAVE A LOOK AT THINGS.

OF ALL THE HEAVY, TURK AMATEUR DETECTIVES! I DON'T KNOW WHY I LISTEN TO YOU!



DON'T HAPPEN TO NOTICE THIS WHITE POWDER ON THE SUIT, DID YOU, MURPHY?

NO... BUT WHAT OF IT? PROBABLY SOME DAINE SPILLED IT WHILE SHE WAS POWDERING HER NOSE...

BUT NO LADY'S BEEN IN MY OFFICE SINCE SOMETIME YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AND THIS FURNITURE IS CLEANED LAST NIGHT!

SEE WHAT I MEAN, MARSHALL?

DO YOU MEAN...



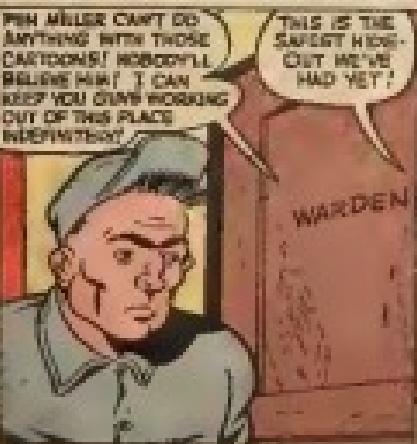
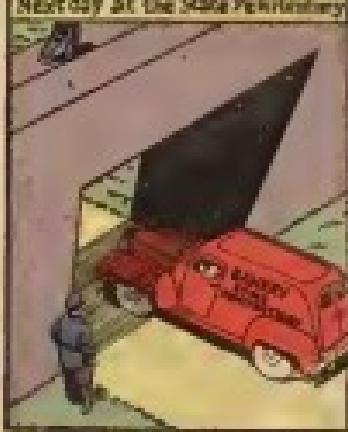
MAHRY'S BETTER EXPLAIN LATER! LET ME GET SOME OF THIS POWDER TO A CHEMIST!

IT'S JUST FLOUR! WELL, WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT?

GHCIS



Next day at the State Penitentiary





# HACK 'OHARA

VANCE  
MCNALLY

The crime scheme was complete—all except getting rid of Hack O'Hara... who isn't known as New York's toughest cabby for nothing!



YOU CABDRIVERS GET THE BIGGEST MACHO—  
ALL THE TIME—  
EXCITEMENT AND  
NEW FACES! I  
JUST STICK HERE!

BALONEY, SAM!  
CAR-DRIVING  
IS DULL!—  
NOTHIN'  
EVER  
HAPPENS!

HOW YOU TAKE TONIGHT,  
PRIMROSE? — I DON'T  
ABSOLUTELY NOTHING  
HAPPENED! I CAN FEEL  
IN MY BONES, IT'S GONNA  
BE A DULL NIGHT!

BUT I'm a tough trooper—THAT'S  
how I stay—  
SAY, PETTY,  
WE CAN'T LOSE!  
NOBODY'll  
SUSPECT MACS  
CAB IS A  
FUGGY—EVEN  
TO THE  
LICENCE!





# CRACK COMICS

A FEW LATER...

WELL, HERE'S THE SPOT... WE'LL MAKE THE STICKUP AND...

SH-BOSS - LOOK! I THOUGHT YOU TOOK CARE OF O'HABA!



O'HABA, SOMETHING'S QUITE OFF. JAKE, GO TAKE CARE OF O'HABA - QUICKLY! GET HIM OUT SOMEWHERE AND STOP HIM COLEY!

I BETCHA, BOSS! HE WON'T BE AROUND TO BOTHER YOU LONG! HA-HA!



DRIVE ME OUT IN THE COUNTRY, CHUM! I FIG'L  
LIKE SMALLER COUNTRYS MY STUFF, SEE!

NOW ABOUT THIS PARKWAY,  
SUSPECT TANTS COUNTDOWN ENOUGH?



MORNING!  
HOW'S THIS,  
FRIEND?... FAR ENOUGH?

THIS IS PERFECT, CHUM! NOW JUST SIT STILL AND BE A GOOD BOY UNTIL NINE O'CLOCK - AN' HEZZY YOU MONT EVER GET HOITY!



WHAT TH - ITT! FARTHER O'HABA!  
LISTEN, MONKEY...  
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

I JUST GOT  
CAMPERS TO KEEP  
YOU AWAY FROM  
YOUR CORNER TILL  
AFTER NINE  
OCLOCk, SEE?  
THAT'S ALL!

CHUM, CHUM! YOU  
HOLD ALL THE ADVICE  
I MIGHT AS WELL -  
**HEY!** WAIT A MINUTE -



I GOT #2-85 ON  
THE TICKET! - WHO'S  
GONNA PAY THAT?

CHARGE IT OFF  
TO FRIEND AND  
LONES, CHUM! IT'S  
NO SKIN OFF  
MY HONE!



MAVER NOT, THIS GUY... BUT THIS IS!

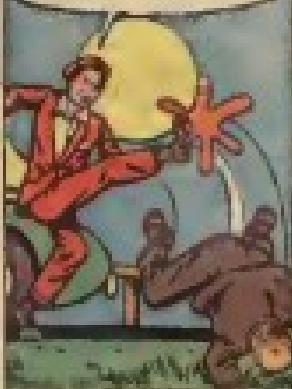
**HEY!**  
OOOOOFF!

UP TO WHERE IT COSTS ME MONEY,  
PAL, I'M A VENDETTAABLE GUY, IT  
AFTER THAT I GET TOUGH!

OWWWW!  
CUT IT OUT!  
OUCH!



JUST FOR THAT GAG,  
YOU CAN WALK HOME!



A quick trip down to  
town and...

OH-OH! ANOTHER CAR  
ROLLING DOWN MY CORNER,  
SO THAT'S WHY THE GORILLA  
WAS NEEDED TO KEEP ME AWAY.  
WELL, NOW WE'LL SEE  
SOME REAL FIREWORKS...



**BOOM!** I  
DON'T MEAN THAT,  
LOT OF FIREWORKS!



SO THAT'S IT! -- A STICKUP! AND I  
WAS IN THE WAY OF THEIR GET-AWAY CAR!  
AND THAT LOOKED LIKE PETE HERR TO  
ME! WELL, I GOT A \$2.00 STAKE  
IN THIS GAME, BUDDY!



B-BOSSES... THERE'S  
A JACK FOLLOWING--  
AND IT LOOKS LIKE  
CHARLIE!

**BOOM!**  
A GOOD  
TIME...

HOT HO MOKE  
WE AIN'T FOLLOWING!  
KEEP GOIN', MAC!



## CRACK COMICS

MOM IT'S \$2.95 AND A  
NEW TICKET THAT SETTLES  
IT! I'M GONNA FIND THAT  
LONELY HEFF AND HANG IT  
OUTA HIS DIRTY SKIN!



I'M A MILD MAN - BUT AFTER  
SO MUCH SHOOTIN' AROUND,  
I GET SORE! — AND  
BROTHER, AM I SORE  
NOW!



O'HARA, DID YOU SEE A GRIMY  
GAB HEADING THIS WAY? THEY  
HELD UP THE ELITE JEWELRY  
STORE AND SHOT A CLEAVER!



SURE! IT LOOKS LIKE A PETE  
HEFF JOB TO US, TOO - BUT  
NOSOBODY CAN IDENTIFY HIM!  
HE ALWAYS WIGGLES OUT  
ON EVERY CHARGE!

WE AINT WELL.  
I KNOW ONE  
HE AINT  
GONNA WIGGLE  
OUT OF!



WELL THROWN OUT A  
DRAGNET, HADNU! IF YOU  
SEE ANYBODY, LET 'EM  
KNOW! WE CAN'T GO  
AFTER PETE WITHOUT  
EVIDENCE!



HAW! AM I GLAD  
I AINT A COP!!  
I GOT ALL THE  
EVIDENCE I NEED!  
PETE'S BROTHER-  
IN-LAW RUNS A  
TAVERN OVER  
ON OTIS --

O'HARA, I WANTS YOU  
LOOKIN' SO TOUGH  
ABOUT WHATIVE I  
EVER DONE TO YOU.  
HAW??

NOTHIN', AL-  
BUT YOU'RE  
GONNA DO  
SOMETHING  
FOR ME...  
RIGHT NOW!



YOU'D GONNA TELL ME  
WHERE PETE IS - RIGHT NOW?  
OR I'Ll BEAT YOUR LOOPY  
SKULL INTO HAMBURGER!  
START TALKIN'!



WHUUU... YOU  
CAN'T DO THIS TO  
ME, O'HARA! I-UP-  
OKAY! HE'S UPSETTE  
— BUT HE'LL KILL  
ME FOR TELLIN'—

TO DO THE SAME IF YOU DIDN'T,  
BSEE GUYS I'M NOT THE COPS!  
I DON'T HAVE TO TAKE ANY STALLING  
AROUND!



A SWEET HALL, AL—AND LET  
THE COPS TRY TO PIN IT ON...  
ANOTHER—O'HARA!

YOU CAN SAY  
THAT AGAIN,  
CHISELER...



THAT IS—if you're able to  
talk when I get through  
with you!

OOPSY!  
OWWW!



WOW!... WE FOLLOWED  
CHARLIE AND CAUGHT 'EM  
COLD WITH THE LOOT!  
GREAT WORK, MACK...

YOU AIN'T SEEN  
ANYTHING  
YET, BOYS!



THIS IS NOTHING  
TO WHAT I'D HAVE  
DONE TO 'EM IF  
THEY DIDN'T HAVE  
THE DOLCH TO PAY  
FOR MY MURDER  
AND MY TIRE!

BY GOSH! HE  
BOUNDS UP A  
STICKUP GANG  
BEFORE THEY'LL  
GUNBLADE COOK  
—AND ALL HE  
WANTS IS HIS  
FARE!



Ladies... at the White  
Terrace Inn...

MISTER O'HARA — FOR A  
REWARD, TAKE THIS FINE  
DIAMOND ENGAGEMENT RING!  
YOUR GIRL, WILL...

LOVE IT!  
ENGAGEMENT  
RING?... BUT  
I... I...  
MEAN...

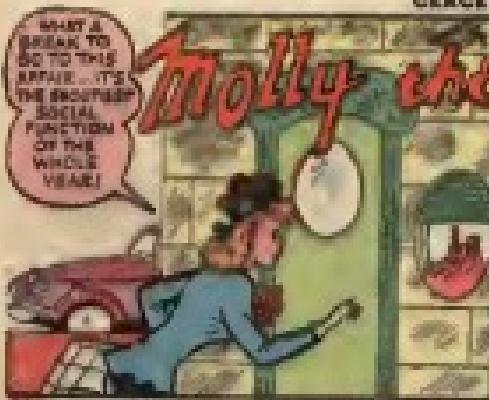


I HAVEN'T GOT A GIRL — BUT  
SAY, NOW — MAYBE THAT AIN'T  
SUCH A BAD IDEA! I'VE  
GOT THE BAIF RIGHT HERE!

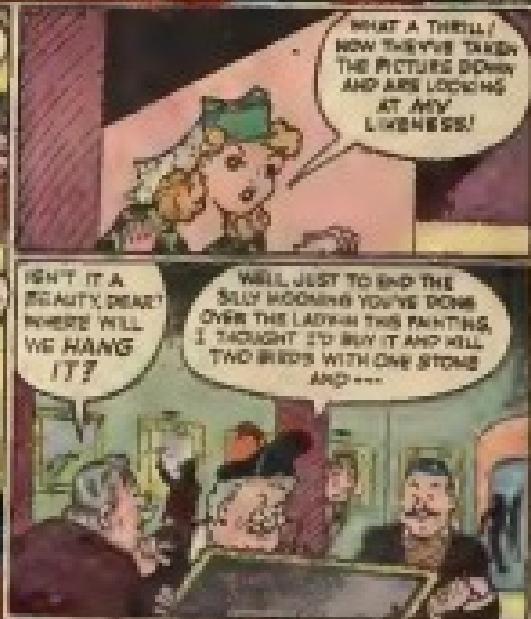


# Molly the Model

WHAT A  
HORROR TO  
DO TO THIS  
AFFAIR... IT'S  
THE SHOUTING  
SOCIAL  
FUNCTION  
OF THE  
WHOLE  
YEAR!



# MOLLY THE MODEL



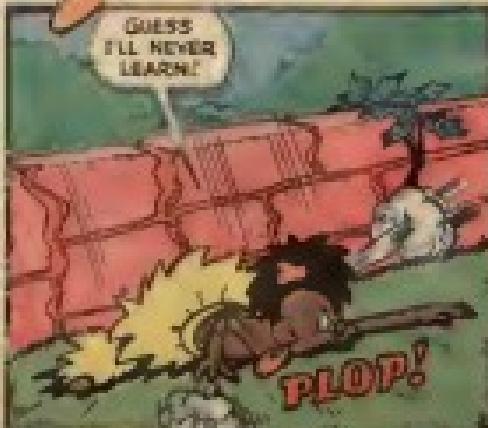
# MOLLY THE MODEL



# FLOOGY

The  
FIFI











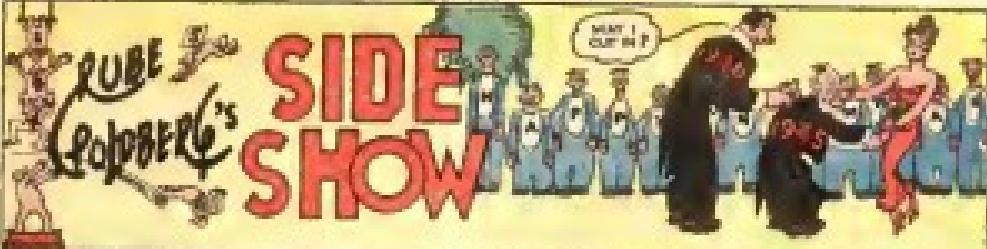




NO!







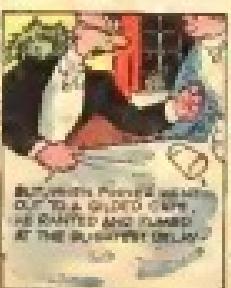
## MONTH OF INVENTION

SIMPLY THE MOST ENTERTAINING MONTH OF THE YEAR.

Celebrating Month with  
A GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP!  
Proudly present the first  
ever golf tournament ever  
held in the United States.  
LAWN'S BACK - BIG LADY  
BLUES AND WHALENT HEPBURN  
WHO KNOWS, TOMORROW MIGHT  
BE JUST AS GOOD, ANYHOW,  
TAKING ON TO BLACK  
OUT THE OLD AND  
THE NEW!



## LITTLE BROTHER



# BIG RED

PROUDLY he stood on the high wind-swept spur of the ridge and looked down into the verdant valley.

Memories of that valley held no lure for him. His early youth had been spent there—as a prisoner. Now he was free, a wild, beautiful thing that went gliding across the hills like some astute copper creature. And the other wild things looked on with envy.

The breeze caught his great mane and blew it streaming back, like a wave of golden flame. He snickered softly at the smell of cool, moist grass. He waited to be born. That was one thing he missed, down in the rich valley there had been rich green grass! Up here in the wild jungle of rocks, it was a bit hard to find! But what did he care? He was free!

Big Red swept the ridge with his great keen eyes. His nostrils flared and an angry snort issued from his savage mouth. A mile away a small herd of wild horses had paused on a rock flat. A big black stallion led them. What gave Big Red the start was the fact that a dainty white mare was in that herd.

He lifted his head and snarled fiercely to the skies. The black stallion jerked, tensing for a battle. Both stallions spotted each other; stood a moment facing each other. Then Big Red moved cautiously toward the other horse.

A red haze partly obscured Big Red's vision. Terrible anger and hate welled within his great heart. That black stallion must die! He had taken the white mare—Big Red's own love!

Red stallion and black approached each other. The herd was alert, tensing a battle. The white mare acted like a cat,

worling in the open as if to tease both horses.

The distances separating both stallions grew less. Now they faced each other, eyes gleaming hate. Big Red whistled shrilly. The black answered in kind. Then they were hurling toward each other at the speed of a wind. The herd watched expectantly.

Big Red skidded to a stop an instant before the black did, and lifted his front feet high in the air, sharp hooves cleaving like two axes. The black did likewise. Four hooves came down in slashing arcs. The black was a bit too short. His drive swept only the air. But Big Red connected, his hooves bringing two gory grooves across the black's withers. A scream of rage whirled from the black stallion's wide open jaws. He whirled and ripped with his teeth, this time tearing a bit of skin from the red's shoulder.

The two fighters leaped and whirled, their movements almost too quick to follow. Then the red got in a particularly good strike—the black went down, but he was quickly on his feet again, slashing, screaming.

Eric Vale, watching on a high ridge, lowered his glasses and turned to the other three men. "We ought to stop it! It's a magnificent fight, but those two horses will slash each other to death. Come on!"

The four men arose and hurried down the cliff. The herd spotted them instantly and screamed warnings. The two fighters whirled, facing the men. Battle was forgotten in the joint issue facing them. Here was cause for fright indeed! They all went streaking across the hard rocks in a blur of speed.

"For Pete's sake," gasped

Hap Oliver, horse wrangler. "I've seen a lot of wild ones in my day, but never a white mare like that one."

Eric Vale chuckled. "I bet the one you want? Well, I'll go for that big red stallion. He's magnificent."

"Nothing wrong with the black," put in Louis Briggs, a crooked-legged little chap who had spent half a lifetime hunting wild horses in Arizona. "If I ever get a 'ope on that one, I'll be satisfied."

"You mean," said Eric, "that you've tried to get those felines before?"

Hap Oliver laughed outright. "Man, we've been after them two stallions for a year. The red is an Arab. Pop Stubb owned him once, when he was just a wee mite. The little rascal can stay 'em wild ever since. Here's the human race!"

Eric looked at the horsemen. He laughed. It was like hunting gold, this chasing wild horses! All he wanted was pictures of the beautiful animals—colored movies of them in their everyday life. He had got a few feet of the battle, but the distance had been a little far.

"Let's see if we can find 'em again," he said. The four men started down the mountain face, making as little noise as possible. They reached their teeth ered horses and climbed aboard.

For an hour they hunted for the wild horses, and at last Oliver held up a hand and pointed. There, far up a pass, they spotted Big Red and the white mare.

Oliver chuckled. "The old boy has cut out his mare, all right. Must've scared the black."

The two wild horses saw the men at the same time. They whirled and disappeared over

## CRACK COMICS

the ridge in a clatter of hooves. The men followed.

At the top, Oliver drew rein. Down below them the racing pair was making for a cut between two ridges. Oliver spurred his mount and leaped off. The others followed. The wild pair dashed through the cut, and a minute later the men did likewise.

Big Red's whistle of rage came back to them. The giant bronze horse was running like a streak, just behind his white mate, seemingly urging her along, but not getting ahead of her.

They raced for a mile, all the time Big Red acting as a guard and encouraging his beloved along the rough trail.

Suddenly the trail came out on a broad flat mesa, where the wind whooped and whistled like a banshee. Oliver pulled his horse up with a sliding crack and motioned with one hand.

"We've got him, follow! I thought he'd turn off, but the old boy was going too fast. He can't get across the stone arch. Come on!"

The wild horses were a half mile away. And now Eric could see the narrow, spendly arch of stone that spanned a gorge. It looked narrow, but it might have been a hundred feet wide. What would the great red horse do?

They saw Big Red circling his mate, nickerling, cooing. He ran toward the stone bridge, whirled and came back to the mare. He reared on his hind feet and shrieked fiercely.

The mare pranced a few feet toward the bridge and then halted. Big Red evidently tried to urge her across the arch, but she wouldn't go. The men were drawing closer, not so fast now. They didn't want to frighten the horses into making a crazy leap.

Big Red suddenly galloped out on the arch, tried to stop and whirl around, couldn't make it, and rushed headlong across the arch, whirling on the other

side and screaming at the mare. With a toss of her head she leaped across the arch.

Oliver reined up near the bridge. He rubbed his stubby jaw. "Well, I'll be darned!" he cried. "I never saw anything like that. What a horse! Come on, we'll have to head 'em off down below. This puts 'em in a tight place, but we've got to beat 'em there."

Fifteen minutes later the four men were approaching the opening of a narrow box canyon. They drew up and listened. Yes, the drumming hooves of the two horses could be heard. The four men rode into the entrance. Big Red and his mate leaped down into the canyon, a jump of nearly fifteen feet and then they saw the riders. Red screamed with rage.

Louis spurred toward them, whirling his lasso. The movement was sudden, disconcerting. The loop fell over the white mare's neck. He jerked at it. The others rode full tilt toward them. Big Red sensed the snare. He roared angrily, passing the air. His hooves sliced at Louis, who barely escaped. But the big horse would not abandon his mate. He circled, slashing at the rope, as if he knew this was a penitentiary thing.

Eric Vale marveled at the tenacity of the horse. His comets was going. Red reared and dashed again at the rope. His sharp hooves did the trick, the rope parted. The two wild horses whirled and, by sheer force of might, galloped through the horsemen. In a moment, all was silent.

"Well, I'll be—" gasped Oliver. "Did you ever see anythin' like that? The big chap is a real sport. Wouldn't leave his gal. An' how he cut that rope! That's one to tell our grandchildren!"

Eric laughed, and a warm glow suffused him. He had seen something that escaped one of the men, both Louis and Oliver could have stopped the red—but they didn't. It had been a sporting thing, to match the brave act of the horse. He said as much in a whisper to Oliver.

The horse wrangler chuckled. "Wal, mebbe you are right, Eric. Yeah, I cud 'a' cut him out, but shucks, I never see anythin' so brave as that red horse. I plumb let 'im go, I did—after seein' th' fight he put up."

Eric nodded. "I would have, too, Map," he said quietly. "And Louis let the white mare get away for the same reason. You're both good sports!"

# COMPARE!

## CRACK COMICS

WITH

OTHER COMIC MAGAZINES.  
YOU GET 56 INSIDE PAGES.  
FULL VALUE FOR YOUR DIME!

# BEEZY

HANDS UP, JIM S. Y., MAD DOCTOR, AND OTHER ASSOCIATES OF VILLAINS  
IN THE REA...



FROM THIS USED TOOTHPICK I  
PREDICT THAT THE KILLER WAS FIVE  
FEET, EIGHT INCHES TALL, THIRTY-SEVEN  
YEARS, SIX MONTHS AND FIVE DAYS  
OLD, HALF DANDYSHIP, A MAFIA ON  
THE HOSE, AND HIS NAME IS R. H. WOODCOCK  
MAGNITUDE OF 65, ALABAMA  
STREET, APARTMENT 2B,  
RENT TWO MONTHS BEHIND  
ON RENTORY...



HOW  
REALLY  
CUTE!

SWALLOWS  
THAT SPY WHO  
MADE OUR  
VICTORY  
POSSIBLE,  
MR. BUMBLE!

THE  
F.B.I.  
WAS  
BARLED!

ALWUZ  
GLAD TO  
GIVE MR.  
HOOVER  
A LIFT!

YES, YOU TWO BEAUTIFUL  
WOMENESSEN WERE NEXT ON HIS  
LIST! THIS PIMP WOULD HAVE  
KNOCKED OFF YOU TWO PIPS FOR  
A HOLE MATTEE OR 2 GR. BEING  
IF I HADNT HEFTED HIS  
LITTLE PLOT!



MHHHHH!



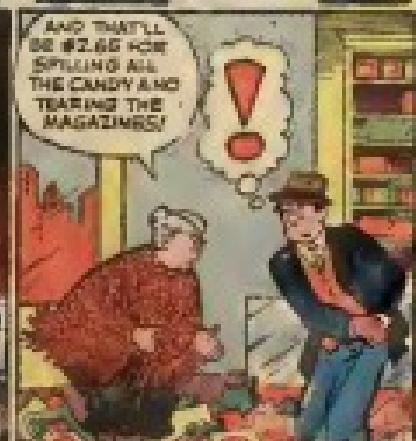


IT TOOK ME SEVEN WEEKS TO DO IT, BUT IT WAS WORTH IT ... I'LL WORTH IT... TO BE AN OFFICIAL GRADUATE PRIVATE DETECTIVE!

DIPLOMA, BADGE, HANDCUFFS, FILE, FINGERPRINT OUTFIT... YEP, EVERYTHING'S SET TO START MY NEW LITTLE CAREER IN THE MORNING!





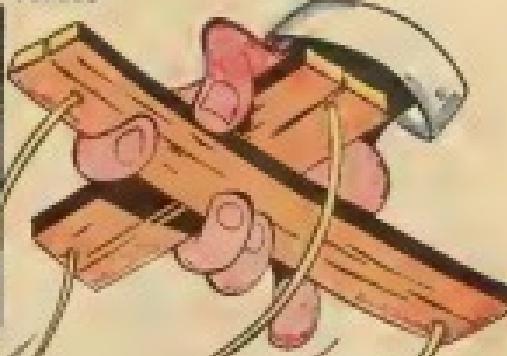




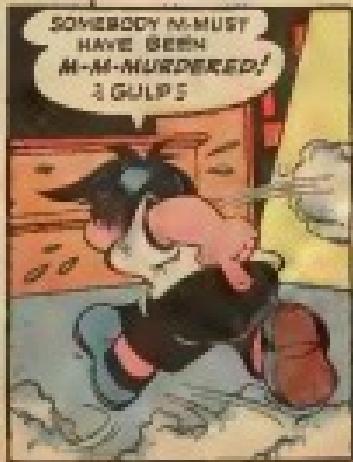




# INKIE



by Al Stahl  
Ginger





WELL, WELL, LITTLE MAN ...  
SO YOU'VE COME TO PAY YOUR  
RENTS TO THE GREAT ART  
OF SHOW BUSINESS! ...  
MY HAND, SIR!

EH ... I ... WELL ... DELIGHTED!  
BUT I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW  
WHAT HAPPENED TO  
THE POOR HERO!

WHEEE!



HAI HAI HAI HAI! DID YOU REALLY  
WANT MY NAME, SONT HAI HAI?  
SUCH EXPRESSION! WHAT  
AN ACTOR!

L - I DIDN'T  
THINK IT WAS  
SO FUNNY!



SURE, THAT WAS  
YOUR SCREEN  
TEST! — TO TEST  
YOUR REACTION!



BUT, HERO, WHAT ABOUT  
THE HERO HAS HIS  
FIREST?

MY BOY, HE DISGRACED  
THE ENTIRE MARIONETTE  
THEATRE WORLD. HE  
TRAPPED OVER HIS OWN  
STRINGS IN THE  
FIRST ACT!



SO I'LL INVITE THIS  
ACTOR! — MY NAME IS  
IN LIGHTS, PUBLICITY,  
AND MAYBE MOREOVER,  
EVEN HOLLYWOOD!



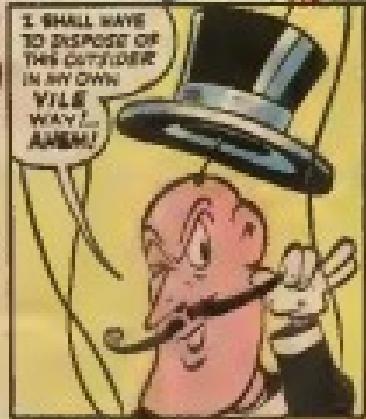
OKAY —  
WE PUPPETEERS,  
SEND DOWN A  
NEW SET OF  
STRINGS!

SOON!

COMING!







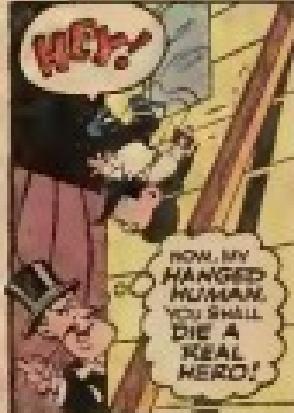
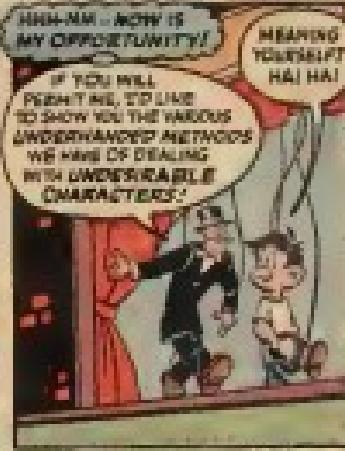
ANSON! I THINK IT WOULD BE FITTING AND PLEASER TO TAKE ONE REHEARSAL ON A TOUR OF THE STUDIO -- JUST SO HE MAY ACQUAINT HIMSELF WITH OUR STAGE STAGE!

EXCELLENT SUGGESTION, VANCE! -- BY THE WAY, VANCE IS OUR VILLAIN!

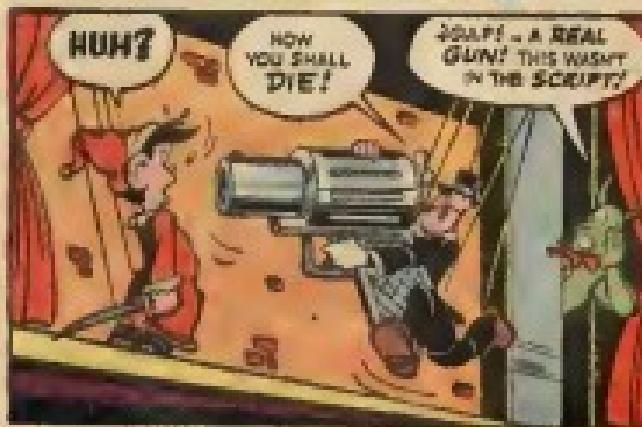
HAI-HAI... NOW IS MY OFFICE FURNITURE!

MEETING YOURSELF HAI-HAI

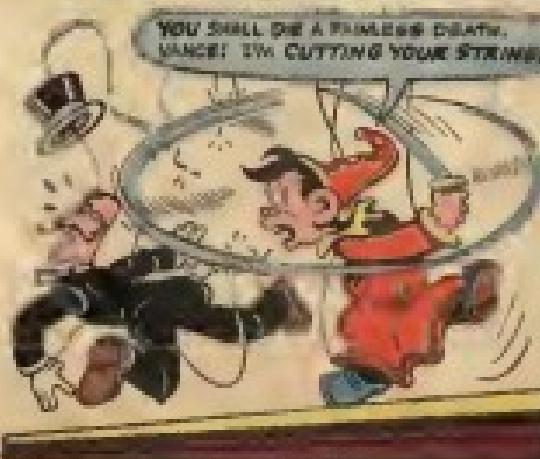
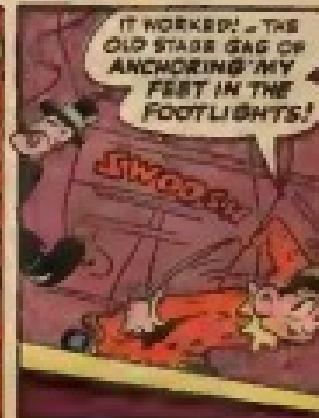
IF YOU WILL PERMIT ME, I'D LIKE TO SHOW YOU THE VARIOUS UNDESIRABLE METHODS WE HAVE OF DEALING WITH UNDESIRABLE CHARACTERS!







ZAP! - A REAL GUN! THIS WASN'T IN THE SCRIPT!



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